Elk Point REVIEW

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Tuesday, January 27, 2009

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New arrival
Wins Bonnyville honours
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Winter fun
Church plans carnival
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26th Oilmen's Bonspiel
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Vicki Brooker photo

A watchful Elk Point Novice Avalanche defenseman keeps a close eyé on the action from his post at the red line during Sunday's final game against Pierceland, where the Avalanche won a 9-4 decision. The game was the conclusion of this weekend's tournament and one of several victories for Elk Point teams this weekend. More on the tourney, Page 8

Extravaganza profit larger than expected

By Vicki Brooker
Review Staff

Members heaved a collective sigh of relief when the interim financial report presented at the first Elk Point Chamber of Commerce meeting of the new year showed that proceeds from the 2008 Christmas Extravaganza will be much better than earlier expected.

"It looks like a $4,200 profit," treasurer Lesia Porcina told the group.

"That's amazing," president Sandy Smith enthused, noting that increased expenses this year had led to profit expectations in the $2,000 range. The profit will go toward the chamber's major 2009 project, construction of the EcoCentre, and every additional dollar will help.

The chamber is planning an appreciation night in the near future for the volunteers involved in planning and carrying out the many duties of Extravaganza.

With less than three months to go before construction starts on the EcoCentre, research is still being done on the green power aspect of the facility. Dwayne Yaremkevich said the Lloydminster company he had spoken with "is in the same state as we are," still looking into the various possibilities for powering their project, so the most expedient route for the chamber to take may be to seek the required expertise much closer to home.

"I think Andy Viel is the way to go. He has the contacts, and I think he can really lead us."

Smith has contacted Viel and is setting a date for interested chamber members to visit his off-the-grid home to see green power in action. Ian Kossey, who has also expressed an interest in the project, will also be invited .

The EcoCentre fundraising campaign is underway, but without the 3-D artist's concept, which didn't turn out as well as expected. Smith asked for input from the members regarding ways to recognize the project's donors, rather than the usual plaque format.

Bob Bezpalko brought input from the Elk Point TrailRiders regarding the proposed snowmobile/ATV storage facility.

"They would like the compartments to be 12 feet deep and five to six feet wide," he noted, adding that he would recommend a double row of back-to-back compartments with cement floors, with lockable doors, in a design that would blend in with the EcoCentre.

(Continued on Page 2)

Allied Arts Centre ready to go in February

By Vicki Brooker
Review Staff

Elk Point's long-awaited Allied Arts Centrre will open its doors within the next month, according to Regional Allied Arts Society president Don Conrad.

"It's safe to say that we'll be open by the end of February. The first function will probably be the Town of Elk Point's open house on Feb. 23."

Completion of the centre has met with "so many barriers in the subtrades," Conrad said, but now "it's in its final stages. The coolers are coming in this week, and the electricians will be finishing up."

Fifty round tables have arrived, along with 117 of the 500 chairs that were on order, and now "we're working on tablecloths. The grad and a number of other events will be here, and we're trying to make sure we have what people will need."

Conrad says the society is "actually quite pleased. Phase One is quite close to our $1.2 million budget. We've stuck to our plans, with a lot of volunteer work, and we may be off budget a little, but we're very close."

Conrad adds that he's "glad we got the support we did. There were a few times when we felt it would never happen, but then something would turn up and we'd be be able to take another step."

Once the facility is up and running, Conrad says, "we'll be looking for community support for Phase Two." That phase involves equipping the kitchen, which is currently a room completely finished with wiring and plumbing, but without cupboards and fixtures.

"The kitchen is quite essential. It's a real asset for catering, because this facility is designed for large groups and caterers are reluctant to prepare that much food elsewhere and bring it in, instead of preparing it on site," Conrad says.

The sound system and stage lighting are also part of Phase Two, which is estimated at between $200,000 and $250,000.

Although the centrre is only now reaching completion, bookings have been pouring in, Conrad says.

"We have a very, very busy spring. From March through June, many of the weekends are booked solid. We even have one booking for July of 2010."

Conrad says he feels proud of the society's accomplishment.

(Continued on Page 2)

Profit larger than expected

(Continued from Front PAge)

He reported that the TrailRiders are planning an event for Family Day, February16, in conjunction with other events around town. Their annual rally will be Feb. 28.

Bezpalko displayed photos of the community that will be displayed in the Alberta's Lakeland booth at upcoming trade shows.

Town manager Myron Goyan is looking toward summer, and reminded the chamber that the town has a trailer that was purchased for the chamber to use as the base for a parade float. He would like to see the chamber form a float committee so they can "take an active role in producing your own float and taking it to parades" such as St. Paul and Vermilion.

Dan Bojarski of Ability Career and Employment Services and Andrea Peterson of St. Paul Regional Employment Centre were at the meeting to outline the programs they offer.

Bojarski offers a free program to unemployed or underemployed individuals, offering the opportunity "to learn how to build a business," to "anybody with a business idea," including training on market research, creating a business plan, finance and accounting, and says the 26-week program can be offered one-on-one or by distance learning.

Peterson offers information on job placement, creating resumés and job searching, and told the chamber about a provincial initiative that fosters on-the-job training with a wage subsidy and funding for supplemental training, which allows a worker to get "practical training and to earn while they learn."

The chamber has set Wednesday, Feb. 18 for their 2009 annual meeting.

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County of St. Paul No. 19 Office, contact Jeremy at (780) 645-3006 Email: jrobinson@county.stpaul.ab.ca or MD of Bonnyville Office, Matt at (780) 826-3951 Email: mjanz@md.bonnyville.ab.ca

2008 bird count affected by cold weather

Submitted by Paul E. Boisvert

The St. Paul and area Christmas Bird Count and the County-wide winter counts were greatly affected by the blanket of very cold air that was with us for almost a month.

Thirty-three reports of feeder and field observations were filed covering the period of Dec. 14, 2008, to Jan. 4. Forty people from St. Lina south to the North Saskatchewan River, and from Laurier Lake west to McRrae took part in this year's counts.

For the benefit of those who like to note the year-to-year differences, we have provided both last year and the 2008 counts.

While the number of different species remains fairly constant, the differences in the number of Wax-wings and Red Polls is notable. The very large flocks of Wax-wings that appeared in the Town of St. Paul for many years seem to have moved on in spite of the availability of their favourite foods, the Mountain Ash and May Day tree berries.

The eight Gadwalls that have been at the open water near the sewage treatment plant in St. Paul demonstrate the hardiness of birds provided they have the food stock they require. One observer reported that a group of 10 ducks were seen flying into a field about three km east of St. Paul, where cattle feed has been spread out in the field. It is probably this same group of Gadwalls.

We are asking anyone who observes any unusual birds over the winter to share the information with the many birders in this area.

The larger owls and the ravens will being their mating rituals by the latter part of February.

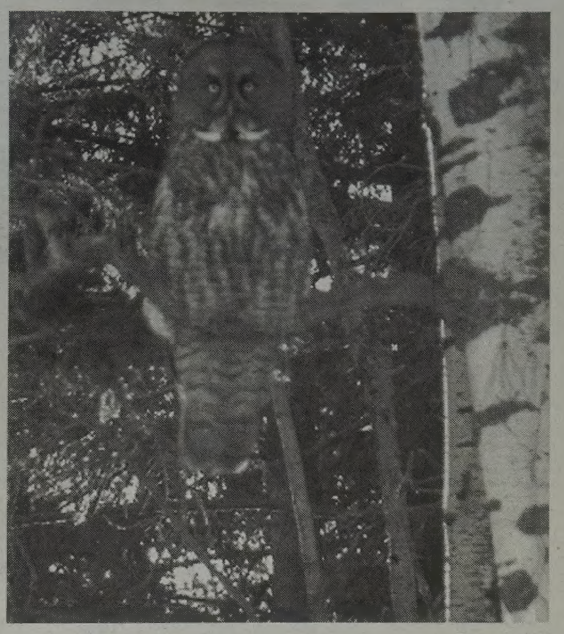

Photo submitted

Four Great Grey Owls were noted during the 2008 bird count. In 2007, only three Great Grey Owls were seen. Forty people from across the area took part in this year's bird count.

Annual town and county of St. Paul winter bird count:

Species	2007	2008
Black Capped Chickadee	237	125
House Sparrow	370	206
Red Breasted Nuthatch	46	4
White Breasted Nuthatch	38	31
Magpie	74	140
Blue Jay	46	18
Pine Grosbeak	242	114
Evening. Grosbeak	137	64
Rock Dove (Pigeon)	78	104
Mourning Dove	0	0
Raven	105	76
Starling	0	13
Bohemian Waxwing	1,025	225
Robin	1	0
Hairy Woodpecker	25	19
Downy Woodpecker	26	21
Pileated Woodpecker.	3	2
Three-toed Woodpecker	0	1
Common Red Polls	348	192
Hoary Red Polls	284	44
Dark-eyed Junco	8	4
Pine Siskin	40	22
Purple Finch	30	4
Bald Eagles	0	3
Northern Harrier	30	4
Snow Buntings	425	550
White Winged Crossbill	14	8
Gray Partridge	29	7
Ruffed Grouse	27	14
Sharp-tail Grouse	14	2
Northern Shrike	5	2
Merlin	1	1
Great Horned Owl	4	4
Great Gray Owl	3	4
Snowy Owl	1	5
Sawhet Owl	2	2
Northern Goshawk	1	1
Ducks Gadwalls	0	8
Total Species	**34**	**36**
Total Individual birds	**3,692**	**2,041**

Allied Arts Centre almost complete

(Continued from Front Page)

"We have a facility that will be ready for community use, that can accommodate any and every function. We are trying to keep the rental reasonable, and if we can, we may even bring people in from other communities to use it."

The Allied Arts Centre is "a great addition for Elk Point, not just for today, but for generations to come. I can see the kids who are Ukrainian Dancing here today, coming back to watch their kids dance on the same stage in the future."

Conrad says that the Elk Point Community Choir's 2009 dinner theatre production of "Charley's Aunt" will be among the first performances to grace that stage. Three of the six performances are totally sold out, with "a handful of tickets, here and there" still available for the other three at press time.

Other upcoming events at the Allied Arts Centre will include the Legends of Country Music concert and an Elk Point Chamber of Commerce fundraiser with Danny Hooper, both in April.

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Photo submitted

Bonnyville Health Centre's New Year's baby, Marcus Rocky, was born Jan. 1 to Leanne and Rocky Pankiw of Elk Point. On behalf of the ladies auxiliary, Olga Cross presented the new mom with the auxiliary layette, assisted by nurse Carla Rendelle.

Albertans' physical activity levels holding steady: survey

Edmonton—Despite economic challenges and other barriers, Albertans continue to do about the same amount of physical activity that they have been doing for the last few years, according to the 2009 Alberta Survey on Physical Activity.

The survey indicates that 58.5 per cent of Alberta adults are active enough to experience health benefits. This is down from the 2007 survey (62.4 per cent) and the 2005 survey (60.2 per cent), but the decrease is not statistically significant.

"We're happy that more than half of Albertans are getting enough physical activity, but we'd like to see many more Albertans get moving on a regular basis," said Tanya Berry, one of the authors of the survey report. "Physical activity has considerable positive impact on a person's health and quality of life. Even going for a half-hour walk every day makes a huge difference for most people."

Albertans face many barriers to physical activity, Berry says. "For example, some Albertans lack access to places where they can get physical activity. They might not be able to afford a gym membership, or perhaps they don't feel safe walking in their neighbourhood because of a lack of sidewalks. There are environmental as well as personal factors that affect how much physical activity a person gets."

Other noteworthy findings from the survey:

At 64 per cent, Calgary leads as the region with the highest percentage of sufficiently active Albertans. The Edmonton region is at 55.4 per cent, and the rest of Alberta is at 56.1 per cent

Albertans with annual household incomes greater than $100,000 are 5.53 times more likely to obtain enough physical activity than those who have an annual income lower than $20,000.

The Alberta Centre for Active Living has carried out this survey every other year since 1995 to monitor the physical activity levels of Albertans.

Community church to celebrate winter

By Vicki Brooker
Review Staff

There's no getting around the fact that we're deep in the heart of winter. But, since we can't do anything about it, Stephanie Brewer of the Elk Point Christian Community Church says, "we might as well enjoy it."

That's exactly what's going to happen this Thursday after school, from 4 to 6 p.m. when Brewer and a number of other volunteers from the congregation are inviting local youngsters age 12 and under to dress warmly and join them for a winter carnival behind the church as they kick off the three-day weekend.

"We hope we'll get quite a few kids out," Brewer said, "And it doesn't matter if they're from our church or not. We just want them to come and enjoy the afternoon. If 10 kids come, 10 kids will have fun."

Close-to-the-ground snow sculpturing is one of the activities on the agenda, and Brewer says, "we're going to colour them as well. We've got some spray bottles so we can make those whales and turtles look great."

She's also planning some relay games and other activities for outside, as well as a bonfire.

"Then we'll go indoors for hot dogs and hot chocolate while we warm up."

Adults are also welcome to join the fun.

Brewer said the event will be sponsored by the church, and "a number of people have pitched in."

She also has some future events for Elk Point young people in the planning stages, including an ice fishing outing.

Last week, the Christian Community Church hosted a very successful fellowship luncheon with a capacity crowd.

"I quit counting when I got to 60 people," Ruth Vogel said.

The monthly luncheon, with tureens of tasty homemade soups and an array of desserts contributed by the church congregation, is designed to encourage seniors, shut-ins and newcomers to the community to get out of the house, meet other people, and enjoy a friendly, low-key gathering with good food and good conversation, Vogel says All adults are welcome and the only cost is a voluntary donation

The luncheons are held on the third Wednesday of each month, and the next will be on Feb. 18.

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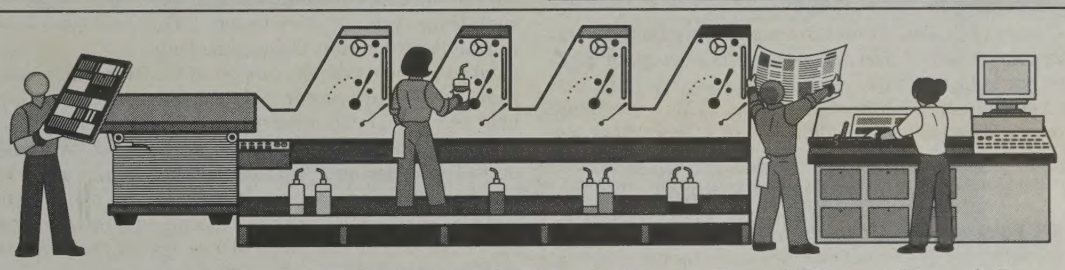

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Editorial

Welcome back, oilmen

One of the best things about the annual bonspiel and golf tournament hosted by the Elk Point Oilmen's Association is that we have the opportunity to see some familiar faces of people who have been part of our lives in the past, but are now living and working in far-away communities.

Over the past 25 years of these events, we have also had the opportunity to meet numerous oilmen who come to Elk Point each year to take part in the sports and the social events that go with them. Many friendships have been forged, and now we look forward to seeing these individuals when Oilmen's time rolls around.

The Elk Point Oilmen's Association is to be congratulated on their longstanding tradition of excellence at hosting these two annual events, consistently attracting a capacity crowd of participants, making good use of two of our local sports facilities, and collecting a huge array of prizes for the sportsmen and their guests to take home with them. They are definitely among Elk Point's 'hosts with the most,' and local retail and service businesses are happy to see the participants they attract to our community time after time. Keep up the good work, and enjoy.

Way Back When...

Acclamation, education, elimination

Here's the news that made the headlines of the Elk Point Review and the Lakeland Review for the week of January 27 in...

1989

Stephanie Cardinal and Edward Abraham welcomed their son, Evan Neil, on Jan. 20, Elk Point's first baby of 1989. Over 100 staunch supporters braved near-blizzard conditions to see incumbent John Drobot declared the St. Paul provincial constituency's Progressive Conservative nominee, by acclamation.

1994

County of St. Paul School Board chair Ray Danyluk was disappointed to have a trickle, rather than a deluge of questions put to him by ratepayers at a meeting where he outlined cuts in education funding, noting, "This is the future of our children that we are talking about." Over 650 people packed the fairgrounds arena to hear country songstress Patricia Conroy and One Horse Blue perform in concert.

1999

Elk Point was one of three communities added to the list of six public forums on deficit elimination for the Lakeland Regional Health Authority, with the Elks Hall again packed to the doors and 34 groups, agencies and individuals presenting briefs emphasizing the need for retention of services at the Elk Point Health Care Centre. Doug Irvine was named top rookie driver of the year and Kyle Lawrence the top rookie outrider at the Canadian Professional Chuckwagon Association awards banquet.

2004

Elk Point Atom Avalanche put their brand new sweaters from McEwen's Fuels and Fertilizers to the test as they won the "C" event of their annual tournament. Riverland Recreational Trail Society president Marvin Bjornstad and secretary Sheila Thompson, along with representatives of Alberta's Lakeland, the Iron Horse Trail and Elk Point Trail Riders Snowmobile Club visited the Elk Point Chamber of Commerce meeting to speak on the opportunities the trail offers to the communities along its length.

Guest Column

Federal Budget day

deanna **EASTHOPE**

from the FCSS desk

Are we, as Canadians, awaiting the Federal Budget? The answer to that question is yes. In the midst of deepening economic concerns, Canadians have also been witness to unprecedented political drama in Ottawa. A potential change in government was delayed until the ruling Conservatives present a proposed economic stimulus package in today's budget.

In early December, Prime Minister Stephen Harper's minority government faced almost certain defeat as opposition parties formed a coalition to hold a non-confidence vote in Parliament. The Liberal Party and New Democratic Party planned to unite, with the support of the Bloc Quebecois, to form a new government. United, the opposition parties hold 163 seats, or 20 more than the Conservatives.

Harper won a temporary reprieve, however, by shutting down Parliament after just two weeks to prepare a new federal budget, being announced today. With a satisfactory stimulus package in place, the expectation is that the opposing parties will be less likely to vote against the budget and the Conservatives.

In public comments on Dec. 15, 2008, Harper spoke of planned "recovery programs" for certain industry sectors, including automaking, mining and forestry.

On December 22, 2008, the federal government and the government of Ontario announced they will provide C$4 billion in loans to General Motors of Canada and Chrysler Canada through Export Development Canada (EDC). The conditional financial support is intended to support the Canadian operations of the two automakers. The Prime Minister also announced two additional steps the federal government will take to support overall competitiveness. Automotive suppliers will have greater access to accounts receivable insurance through EDC coverage, to compensate for the reduced availability of credit, and the government will create a new facility to support access to credit for consumers, with particular attention paid to improve the accessibility of car loans and dealer financing.

When Prime Minister Stephen Harper and Financial Minister Jim Flaherty were in Surrey, B.C. on Jan. 12, the Prime Minister was quoted as saying: "As the world struggles with the effects of the global recession, we as Canadians are looking ahead, we are looking ahead in order to ensure that we are part of the great economic opportunities of the century before us."

Flaherty was vague but said the economic crisis would require an "extraordinary" approach. "This is not a cuts exercise; this is in fact a creative exercise.... It is not normal budgeting. ... the world is not in its stable fiscal condition. ... We are in extraordinary times. It calls for some extraordinary thinking."

But the Conservatives will likely need to go further to ease the fears of Canadians and pacify the opposition as gloomy predictions about the economy become an almost-daily occurrence. Statistics Canada reported last week that 34,400 jobs disappeared in December as the unemployment rate continued to climb to 6.6 per cent.

Also recently, it was learned that there is a possibility the federal budget would include the "shovel ready" program in the "new" budget. This would help new buildings to be built.

Yes, we are in extraordinary times and yes creativity is needed to try and solve the economic situation. After listening to the budget today, how do you think the government did?

The Elk Point Review publishes a variety of opinions as a contribution to debate on matters of public concern. Unsigned editorials express the view of this newspaper's editorial board which includes the Publisher and the Editor. Signed pieces express the view of the individual writer.

Elk Point Review

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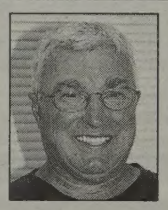

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Workshop will help protect drinking water

By Shauna Burke
Review Contributorr

The County of St. Paul and the M. D. of Bonnyville, along with technical expertise from Alberta Agriculture and Rural Development, Alberta Environment and the Prairie Farm Rehabilitation Administration, will be hosting a free water well workshop on Feb. 5.

"People must register in advance for the workshop and supply their legal land description," said Jeremy Robinson from the County of St. Paul. "We only have space for 50 participants though, so it is important to pre-register. If people just arrive that morning, they will be turned away."

The workshop is intended to help landowners understand and manage their water supply. "The key to ensuring your water is safe and secure is understanding how ground water works, learning about your well and knowing how to properly maintain it," says a media release from the County. "Proper water well siting, construction, maintenance and abandonment will help protect your well from biofouling and contamination, save you costly repairs, and ensure your well water yields are sustained over many years."

There are many factors that impact the quality of well water, for example, permeable soil on your land, such as sand and gravel, are poor filters and may result in a greater chance of contamination from improperly disposed of chemicals or poorly maintained septic systems.

Abandoned, poorly constructed or improperly maintained wells on your property are risky because they may carry contaminated surface water directly into your aquifer, says the release.

"Manure, pesticides and fertilizers over-applied to lawns and fields can be carried by rain or snow melt seeping down through the soil to the water table," according to information from the Agro-Info centre.

"Before this workshop, people supply their legal land description so we can collect the information about their well on their land and that way the workshop will be more meaningful to them," said Robinson "Last year it (the workshop) was very busy so remember to register early."

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New realm of possibilities in province's carbon market

AgriNews

Agriculture is an industry that can provide verified carbon offsets, both by reducing its greenhouse gas emissions and sequestering carbon in the soil.

The Government of Alberta created a trading system that started on July 1, 2007, when Alberta's Climate Change and Emissions Management Amendment Act was announced. The regulation states that emission heavy companies (companies that emit over 100,000 tonnes of carbon dioxide equivalent - all greenhouse gases - per year) must reduce by 12 per cent annually.

One of the options for these emission heavy companies to comply is to purchase carbon offsets from farmers. Farmers who either practiced or presently practice environmental stewardship now have the opportunity to make money from their past and present farming practices. This is the first of a four-part series that will explain Alberta's emerging carbon offset market.

Bill Taylor, a producer in Alberta who has been farming for 35 years, recently became involved in the carbon offset market.

"I never knew what it meant until I heard about it on the radio," Taylor said. "We had been direct seeding for years, so it sounded like a good idea."

In Alberta, these government-approved, emissions-reducing projects that generate offsets include: acid gas injection, aerobic composting, afforestation, beef feeding edible oils, beef feeding reducing days on feed, beef lifecycle, biofuel, biogas, biomass, energy efficiency, enhanced oil recovery (streamlined and non-streamlined), landfill bioreactor, landfill gas, model freight shift, non-incineration of thermal waste, pork, road rehabilitation, run of the river electricity system, solar electricity systems, tillage management (minimal and no till) waste heat recovery (streamlined and non-streamlined), wind powered electricity systems.

Eligibility for the carbon offset projects have the potential to go back to Jan. 1, 2002.

Having already implemented protocols such as minimal tillage and direct seeding, Taylor was able to gain carbon offset credits from activities he had done years prior to learning about the market because he was able to verify his practice.

"At first, no one wanted to do it," Taylor explains. "But then I heard that you could go all the way back to 2002."

Producers have some flexibility when it comes to claiming past offsets. Under the Alberta Offset System rules, there is no deadline for accessing the past tonnes. As a result, some project developers chose to wait a year or more to see how the market evolves before getting involved.

Another primary characteristic of a carbon offset is its voluntary nature. In order to be valid, the offset must originate from a voluntary action and occur at a place other than a regulated facility.

In order to qualify as a carbon offset, a project must meet additional requirements:

- the project cannot be a common industry practice
- the project must occur in Alberta
- the project must be verified by a third party
- the project must have clearly established ownership
- the project must be counted once for compliance purposes

Additional criteria and information is available online at www.carbonoffsetsolutions.ca.

Where have the stars gone?

By Rod E. Mc Connell
Review Contributor

A major problem affecting today's astronomy, nature lovers and sky watchers is light pollution.

Most people are unfamiliar with the term and many will laugh and joke at the very mention of the words. However, it is a very real environmental threat. While we speak of other types of pollution and seek to diminish or remove them all together, we have neglected to see this type of pollution staring us in the face.

Since we have begun to clean up our world, we have fought pollution in our rivers, on our lands and in our air.

We have spent billions of dollars, revised our policies and procedures and instituted environmental agencies to ensure that our environment is clean, healthy and natural. However, few have thought of cleaning up the one area of pollution that is literally before our very eyes – light pollution of the night sky, a very visible symptom of chronic energy waste and, of course, monetary waste.

Alberta, the 'land of blue skies,' is also the land of bright night skies. It has the dubious distinction of being one of the most light-polluted areas on the North American continent.

Looking at a light pollution map Edmonton, Red Deer, Calgary and Lethbridge as the brightest centres. But even Grand Centre, Cold Lake, Bonnyville, and St. Paul are visible.

From my home near Ashmont, I can easily see the light pollution emanating from St. Paul approximately 30 kilometres to the southeast. This dome of uncontrolled, wasted light extends over 40 degrees above the horizon and up to 45 degrees or more horizontally.

It has been steadily increasing in size and intensity over the years. To the southwest the light pollution from Edmonton is easily visible at a distance of 200 km. At least some Alberta cities are in the process of attempting to reduce their light/energy waste and save money by instituting policies and changing street lighting fixtures.

Most current streetlights use a fixture called a 'cobra-head.' Another, the 'cone-head,' is often used in farmyards. Both are extremely wasteful, throwing light far, wide and high into the night sky.

It is estimated that these fixtures waste over a third of their energy into the sky.

However, modern, efficient, effective light fixtures called full cut-off fixtures are available. They direct all the light downward, preventing light from straying into the sky and glare from blinding drivers. They use reflectors and bulbs with lower wattage.

Energy savings can be as much as 50 per cent or more, depending on the type of fixture, bulb and location. For the taxpayer, this means a long term saving in taxes as less energy is being consumed by the municipality to create the same amount of light on the roads.

Another aspect of light pollution is over-lighting. In this case the light may not only come from the wrong type of fixture, but the intensity may be too high for the desired use. Many homes and businesses are over-lit and the owners continue to pay heavily as electrical energy costs continue to rise. Use timers and sensors and turn lights off after business hours to save energy and improve your environmental image.

Most electrical energy companies have created environmental policies and procedures supplemented by advertising energy-reduction programs to their customers.

(Continued on Page 7)

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ALBERTA ORDER OF EXCELLENCE INVESTITURE CEREMONY, OCTOBER 9, 2008, GOVERNMENT HOUSE, EDMONTON.
STANDING (LEFT TO RIGHT): JR Shaw *(recipient)*, Insp. Glenn DeGoeij, Dr. David Schindler *(recipient)*, Cpt. John Riswold, Cpt. George Kuhse, Tom Walsh *(recipient)*, Cpt. Darcy Heddon, Allan Markin *(recipient)*, Cpt. Randy Fisher. SEATED (LEFT TO RIGHT): Clare Drake *(recipient)*, Dr. Helen Hays *(recipient)*, Hon. Norman Kwong *(member)*, Mrs. Mary Kwong, Doc Seaman *(recipient)*.

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To nominate an outstanding Albertan, visit
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The deadline for investiture for 2009 is February 15.

Cost of power slightly down from December, but higher than a year ago

By Shauna Burke
Review Contributor

At this time of the year, many people are concerned about the cost of utilities. A variety of charges are often listed on bills, giving consumers a detailed look at where their money is going.

There are basically two service providers that charge a fee on utility bills. One is the provider and the other is the distributor. For natural gas in the St. Paul area, one company, AltaGas, covers both services. For Electricity however, Direct Energy Regulated Services is the energy provider and ATCO Electric is the distributor.

Direct Energy charges for the electricity that you actually use. On a sample bill dated Jan. 13 provided by a local resident, $146.94 of a total bill of $246.31 is the charge for the actually electricity used from Dec. 3 to Jan. 7.

The cost for electricity in January 2008 was $0.0932 per KWH and in January 2009 is higher at $0.1036 per KWH. However, just one month ago in December 2008 the rate charged by Direct Energy for electricity was $0.1193 per KWH.

"Of the approximately 12,000 MW of electricity that we use, 5,800 MW comes from coal and 4,600 MW come from natural gas," says Bob McManus, assistant director of communications for the Department of Energy with the Government of Alberta, which is where the rates are actually set. "The remaining portion comes from alternate sources such as hydro and a small amount is imported."

The rate charged for electricity changes each month and the Utilities Consumer Advocate website has a list of the monthly charges dating back to 2002.

The costs associated with electricity are mostly the costs associated with extracting coal and then restoring the land to its natural state. Also, the costs of running the plant to produce electricity, McManus explained.

"The price of natural gas has fallen, but not nearly as much as crude oil."

Lisa Frizzel, Director of Public Relations with Direct Energy explains that the costs of electricity changes month-to-month based on supply and demand. For example, "if a power plant goes down for maintenance then that means less power is available, then there is lower supply, and the price will go up."

What about the other $99.37 charged on the sample bill? The two next largest charges are the distribution charge of $74.05 and a transmission charge of $18.29 from ATCO Electric.

"The transmission and distribution charges are the costs of moving the electricity from the power plant to the home of the consumer," explained Geoff Scotton with Alberta Utilities Commission.

The distribution costs are the cost of building, operating and maintaining the local distribution system. The transmission charge is the cost of building, operating and maintaining the provincial power grid.

Scotton described the difference between the two: "The transmission charge is for the large high voltage lines and the distribution charges are the costs of the local, low voltage power lines."

The administration charge of $9.28 is the cost for Direct Energy to bill for the electricity.

Riders are temporary credits (in this example $18.42) or charges (in this example $2.13).

"The cost of electricity is estimated at the beginning of the month, but sometimes it turns out that the actual cost is higher or lower then expected, so the charge may need to be adjusted on the next bill," said Scotton.

The Local Access Fee ($2.32 on the sample bill) are the charges from the "town and/or county for companies to do business in their area," said Frizzel.

Finally, of course, there is the GST charge of $11.72.

Where have the stars gone?

(Continued from PAge 6)

However, they continue to install and replace lighting fixtures with the inefficient, old style cobra-heads or similar fixtures. Taxpayers must ask these companies and their municipal councillors why they continue this wasteful practice.

Many people link night lighting with crime-prevention. However, research has shown that the majority of crimes occur during daylight hours when no one is home. In one recent research program completed in Calgary, over 75 percent of property crimes by teenagers were committed during daylight hours. Many businesses, farms and homes leave outside lights on all night for security purposes, a wasteful and ineffective practice.

Most people have problems sleeping with the lights on or with intrusive streetlights, etc. Light at night does not make for a healthy environment. For human beings increased lighting means not only interrupting the circadian rhythm but an increase in the possibility of breast cancer in women. Light pollution also has serious effects on the health, behaviour and life cycles of flora and fauna.

Reducing energy waste and light pollution may be accomplished by a simple 3-step program:

Any new exterior lighting to be installed must use complete cut-off fixtures.

Any replacements due to maintenance must be complete cut-off fixtures.

A program should be initiated to audit and replace existing exterior fixtures over time with efficient, effective complete cut-off fixtures

Most people who have lived their whole lives in towns and cities always lived in a world filled with light. Their days are filled with sunlight and nights are artificially brightened.

Those familiar with the dark night sky and welcome the final shades of dusk know what waits above. There are a myriad of wonderful sights in the night sky and the galactic arms of our 'star city' the Milky Way, frequent and intense Northern Lights and sky phenomena such as noctilucent clouds peculiar to our latitude.

If we make the effort to appropriately light only what needs to be lit when it needs to be lit and turn our vision skyward, we can reclaim for ourselves and future generations the wonders our ancestors have enjoyed for millennia.

Visit the web site of the Alberta Dark Sky Association (www.albertadarksky.ca) or the International Dark Sky Association (http://www.darksky.org) to learn more about light pollution and how it can be reduced while saving you energy and money.

Staying on TRAC @ the Library

By Daphne Schnurer
Librarian

With the changeover to our new system, some of you may be experiencing difficulties with online ordering of your materials. The TRAC website also has a slightly different look. Feel free to give us a call or drop in at the library any time for assistance.

Also, if you're not presently ordering materials yourself through TRAC but would like to, give us a call or drop in for a quick lesson. The website is very user-friendly, but sometimes you just need someone to work you through it.

You can also renew materials and check your own account online, as well as check the status of items you have on hold.

When ordering, consider that depending on availability all the materials you order in one day could come in at the same time. Therefore, I would suggest you consider how fast a reader you are plus the amount of time you have. Some of the materials may not be renewable, if they are current best sellers, new materials, etc.

Also, a reminder that books are loaned for three weeks, magazines and DVDs for one week.

Our next Seniors' Tea is coming up Feb. 11, our next After School Program is on Feb. 18.

Lordy, Lordy Tas's Old Lady is Forty!

Love
Tas and Kids

THANK YOU

BALLAS

The family of Anita Ballas would like to thank Dr. Oyebode, the nurses and staff at the Elk Point Health Center, Royal Alexandra Hospital ICU unit, ground and air ambulance for the care and compassion shown to Anita and family.

We would also like to thank our family and friends for their support and kindness, gifts of food, fruit baskets and flowers, cards and for the donations to Haying in the 30's Cancer Support Society.

Thank you to Pastor Bill and Wanda Kryzanowski.

Thank you to Yewchin's Funeral Chapel for the very personalized service.

Thank you to the Seniors Centre for the wonderful lunch.

Your kindness will always be remembered.

Ballas Family

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OBITUARY

RUDD, Helen
Mar. 4, 1911-Jan. 22, 2009

On January 22, 2009, Helen Rudd of Elk Point passed away peacefully at the age of 97 years.

Helen is survived by her sons, Godfrey, Ralph (Lorraine) and Carmen; daughter, Jeanette; 9 grandchildren; 11 great grandchildren; 3 great great grandchildren; and numerous family and friends. Helen was predeceased by her husband, Carl in 1948; son, Clarence; grandson, Ken; daughter in law, Jean; and all 9 sisters and brothers.

A Funeral Service will be held at Connelly-McKinley Funeral Home, 10011 - 114 St., Edmonton on Wednesday, January 28, 2009 at 11:00 am with visitation one hour prior. Interment to follow at Zion Lutheran Church Cemetery, Clover Lawn, AB with reception at the Clover Lawn Hall.

Thank you to the staff and Dr. "O" at Heritage Lodge and Parkview Nursing Home for their loving care and compassion to Helen. In memory of Helen donations may be made to a charity of one's choice.

OBITUARY

ANDERSON, Walter

On January 19, 2009, Mr. Walter Anderson of Fishing Lake passed away at the age of 76 years.

He is survived by his loving wife, Rosie; his children, Irene (Garry) Pollom, Larry Anderson, Doreen Anderson, Brian (Cherrilene) Anderson, Wayne (Brenda) Anderson, Stephanie (George) John, Candice (Dave) Hodgins & Shaun (Erin) Anderson; adopted sons, Robert Collins and Tom Durocher; adopted daughter, Beatrice Collins; 23 grandchildren; 29 great-grandchildren; 1 great-great-grandchild; 2 sisters, Irene Calliou & Rena Cardinal; adopted brothers, Matthew Anderson, Sam Dumais, Gabe Dion and Mike Daniels; also adopted sisters, Gladys Anderson, Alice Anderson and Florence Cardinal. Walter was predeceased by his parents, Colin Anderson and Anne Smallface; stepfather, Alfred John; son, Garry Anderson; daughter, Janessa Rose John-Anderson; grandchildren, Troy Gladue, Matthew Terry Crevier and Cheryl-Lee Crevier; great-grandchildren, Tristan Anderson, Torrie Trottier and Trey Durocher Anderson; sister, Rose Collins; brothers, Tom Daniels and Dewey Dion; also adopted brother, Allan Jacknife.

A Prayer Service was held Thursday, January 22 at 7:00 at Yewchin's Funeral Chapel, St. Paul. Wake was held Friday, January 23 at the Fishing Lake Communi-Plex, Fishing Lake. A Funeral Service took place Saturday, January 24 at 11:00 a.m. at Fishing Lake Communi-Plex Fishing Lake. Reverend Sam Donaldson officiated with interment in the Fishing Lake Community Cemetery, Fishing Lake. If desired, donations may be made to the Cross Cancer Institute c/o Box 425, St. Paul, AB T0A 3A0.

Yewchin's Funeral Chapel Ltd. St. Paul. 1-780-645-5177.

CHURCH SERVICES

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www.elkpointbaptistchurch.org

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For service times, call 645-5156, St. Paul or 724-4175, Elk Point.

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Mass 1st Tuesday of the month at Parkview Extended Care, 4 p.m.
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Bethel Lutheran Church of Lea Park
Weekly Services, 10:30 a.m.
Holy Communion 2nd and 3rd Sundays

Bible Fellowship Church Clandonald
Services held every Sunday at 11 a.m.

Proud to be in Avalanche country

Vicki Brooker photo

Elk Point Novice Avalanche saved the best for last this weekend, with a big 9-4 win over Pierceland to cap off their annual tournament in style. With the team are coach Kim Hawryluk(second from left) and assistant coaches Christoph Ludlage (left) and Assistant coaches Christoph Ludlage (left) and Jason Barber.

doug **BASSETT**
Review Sports

You're in "Avalanche Country"!

Last weekend we skied Fernie and survived. No broken bones, although there are still lots of sore muscles, didn't get buried under any avalanches either. Sorry, I know it's no joke about the terrible tragic accident that happened there a few weeks ago, but the true Avalanche capital, ladies and gentlemen, is not in Colorado or Fernie, it's right here in good old Elk Point, at the big blue building on 51 Street at the top of the hill.

Trust me, that's where it's at.

The **Novice Avalanche** hosted one heck of a six-team tournament there this past weekend. They packed the house with parents and grandparents and the concession stand was cooking up a storm, volunteers frying up burgers and fries, sometimes the best part about hockey for these little guys is spending their parents' hard-earned cash at the booth after the game and of course, don't forget about the grandparents who also like to spoil the little guys just a little bit, but hey they're well worth it after watching them play. Most of little guys at his age group are out there just for fun, but don't kid yourself, there's still a little bit of competitiveness too. They still battle for the puck and come up with some big, big saves, like when goalie Sydney Letwin stoned them in the dying seconds of the second period of the first game against St. Paul, she shut the door on a breakaway.

In their second game against Lloydminster, Chad Poitras got the call to strap on the pads and also came up with some big saves. Towering Ross Hawryluk scored two top shelf in this one, Isaiah Barber with a single.

On Sunday the Novice Avs played their little hearts out, winning their first game of the season against Pierceland 9 to 4. Lyon Cueva was between the pipes in this one, doing an awesome job, he made some sprawling saves. The big "Hoss" Ross Hawryluk blazing the trail with 6 goals, Dustyn Pankiw with two tallies, Isaiah Barber with a single and Tammy Roberts on the score sheet with a couple of helpers. Hayden Ludlage was a little snake bit this weekend, working hard every shift; he had a number of shots on the goalie but nothing on the board to show for it. Grinders Kaiden Evans-Anderson and Parker Allen were doing some super work in the corners digging the puck out.

It takes lots of work behind the scene weeks before the tournament and during the tourney, a great job by the team coaches, management and parent for pulling it off without a hitch, and a huge pat on the back to you all.

(Continued on Page 16)

Best of luck to all Elk Point teams in Provincial playoffs!

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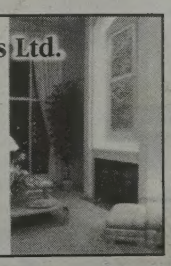

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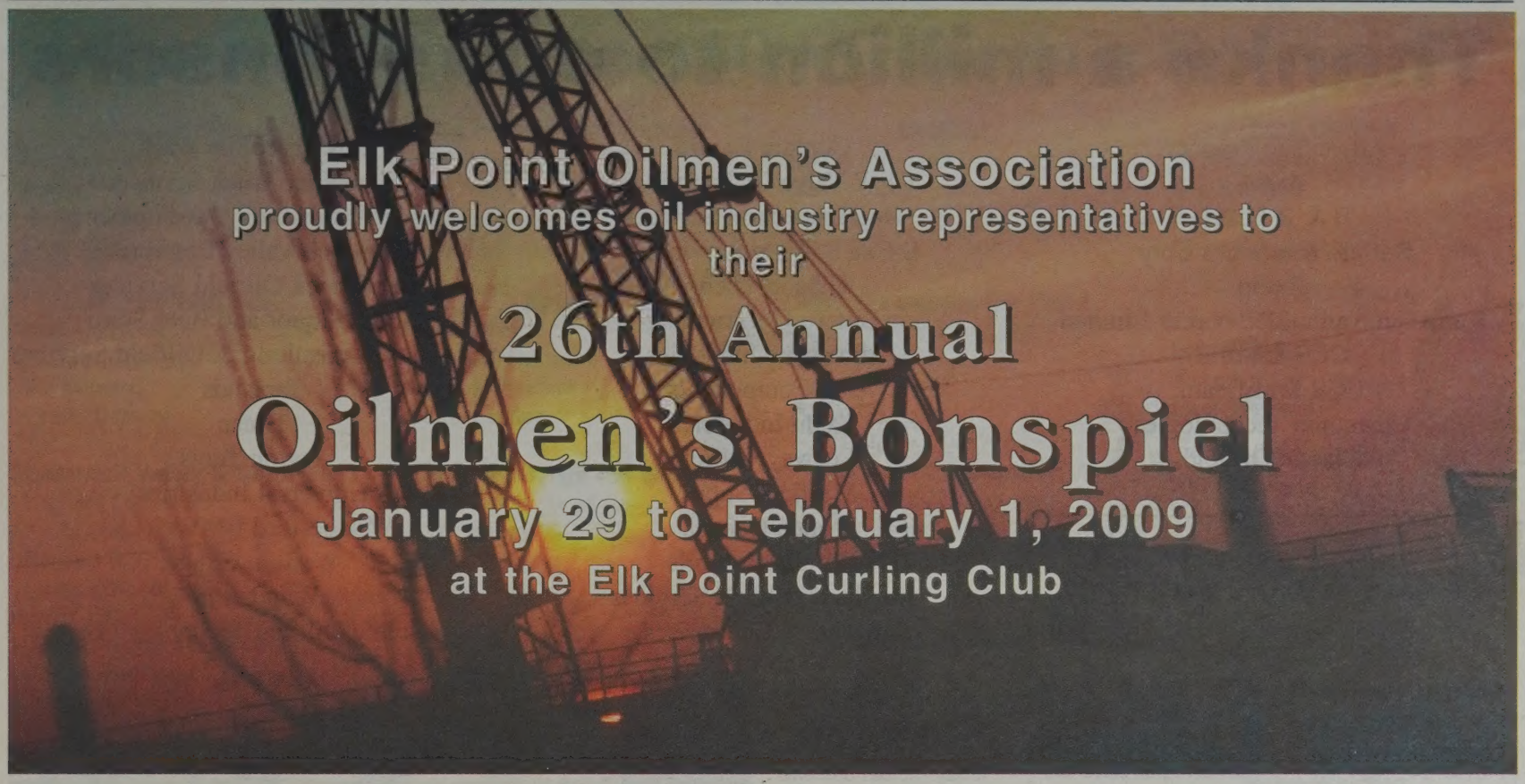

Welcome from the EPOA President

Hello fellow curlers.

On behalf of the Elk Point Oilmen's Association, I would like to welcome you all to our 26th Annual Curling Bonspiel. This year's event should be as much fun, or even more, than the past. This is due to the fact that there will be so much to talk about: low oil prices, uncertainty in the oil patch, Obama as President, who is being bought out and who is buying, etc, etc, etc. But one thing for certain is that there will be a few curlers partaking in the annual ritual of showing off their curling skills at the bonspiel.

A lot of work was done this year by Tim Smereka and his group of volunteers making many phone calls, emails, faxes and such, to maintain the standard that has been set in the previous years.

Many thanks go out to those who gave donations, prizes, volunteered their time and efforts. For if not for these loyal people, we would not be able to hold our function every year. Once again I would like to extend a big appreciation to Marlene, Sheila, Curtis and the rest of the committee for the long hours put in making this function a success.

Again this year the courtesy van will be out and about. This is for your benefit, so please use it. When you see the volunteers hard at work, show them your appreciation by saying thanks for a job well done!! Thanks from myself and the rest of the E.P.O.A. members, for without you all, we would not be attending our 26th bonspiel.

With great appreciation:
Don Mudryk

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THE ELK POINT OILMEN'S ASSOCIATION
welcomes all "old and new" curlers to their annual bonspiel.
Best of luck to all and have a great time!

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2008 Champions

Murry Nielsen presents the Shamrock Valley Enterprises trophy to 2008 Grand Challenge winners (right to left) Leonard Gadowski, Norm Hempel, Owen Gibson and Curtis Porcina, who won the final over Tuboscope teammates (front row, right to left) Mike Makowecki, Joe Halbach, Jeremy Wetsch and Russ Horbach.

WELCOME TO ELK POINT OILMEN!
Wishing all the bonspielers a wonderful time at the Oilmen's Bonspiel
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Many generations of curlers have participated in this fine event.
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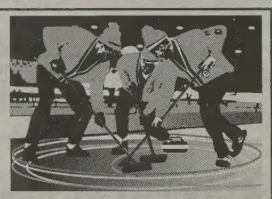
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Have an "xtremely" exciting time at the 26th Elk Point Oilmen's Bonspiel!
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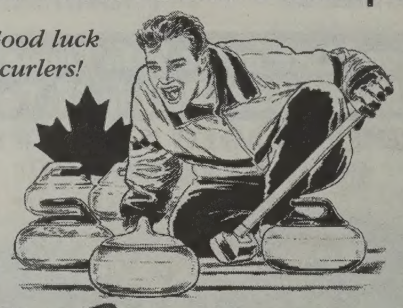
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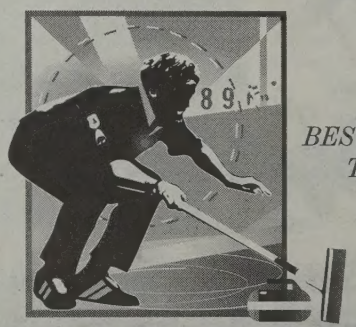
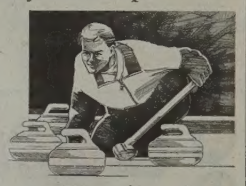
Wow, has it really been 26 years?
Way to go Elk Point Oilmen, what a great event!

BEST OF LUCK TO ALL!
DON, LARRY, SHARON AND RON OF
ELK POINT REALTY
4908 - 48 St., Elk Point
Phone: 780-724-4777
Fax: 780-724-4778
Email: www.elkpointrealty.ca
MLS MULTIPLE LISTING SERVICE
REALTOR

The Oilmen's Bonspiel is a great event in which to renew old friendships.
WE LOOK FORWARD TO THIS EVENT AND SEEING SOME "OLD FACES".

Welcome & Happy Curling!
EMPRESS FAMILY RESTAURANT & LOUNGE
Open Friday 8 a.m. & Saturday 9 a.m.
Closed Sundays / VLTs in lounge
Main Street, Elk Point • 780-724-3828

Gear up for one of the great events held by the local Oilmen's Association.
Join in the 26th year of the Oilmen's Bonspiel and have four days of fun and relaxation Jan. 28 - Feb. 1.

PYRAMID CORPORATION
Electrical / Instrumentation Services
Main Office
2308 - 8th Street
Nisku, Alberta T9E 7Z2
Tel: 780-955-2988
Elk Point
Tel: 780-724-3071
Bonnyville
Tel: 780-826-4227
Lloydminster
Tel: 780-875-6644
TOLL FREE 1-800-955-2988

Who's who at the 2009 Oilmen's Bonspiel

Superior Safety
Calvin Fisher
Justin Murray
Andy Justus
Duane Holt

JPD Enterprises
Armand Houle
Shaina Gadowski
Pat Demers
Cecile Demers

Shamrock Valley Enterprises
Leonard Gadowski
Norm Hempel
Richard Smyl
Curtis Porcina

Buffalo Resources Corp.
Murray Cochrane
Art Lypka
Eldon Heck
Mike Scott

BJ Tool Services
Jeff Latos
Shane Freeson
Trevor Gilby
Trent Cherry

Dog Inspection Services
John Regier
Cam Kinniburgh
Owen Gibson
Dave McNamara

Scope
Cain Miller
Jacques DeMoissac
Derek Kalynchuk
Curtis Collins

R & M Energy Systems
Chris Patton
Dave Hurley
Ed Yaceyko
Justin Blyan

B & R Eckels
Terry Gusnowski
Randy Pottle
Jerry Kopeck
Doug Bassett

Trican
Mackenzie Gusnowski
Lyle Duhaine
Murray Tluchak
Corwin Block

Midfield
Robyn Moroziuk
Ken Ference
Rob Fortier
Kurt Becker

Midfield Supply Elk Point
Harvey Dutchak
Don Mudryk
Wayne Mudryk
Doug Nelson

Pyramid Corporation
Rodney Graus
Dave Cousins
Brent Joly
Todd Jacula

Nalco Canada
Mike Breen
Al Pankiw
Ron Friesen
Ivan Bardoel

TLL Consulting
Troy Lorenson
Sheldon Ballas
Greg Desaulniers
Jason Jenner

CCS Landfill
Al MacDonald
Tim Smereka
Rob Towell
Ian Huffman

CCS Midstream
Clarke Sittler
Derek Yockey
Wade Krider
Jason Hayman

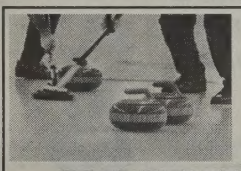
CCS Landfill
Al MacDonald
Tim Smereka
Rob Towell
Ian Huffman

CCS Midstream
Clarke Sittler
Derek Yockey
Wade Krider
Jason Hayman

Hahn Welding
Scott Bannister
Sean Fairbairn
Ryan Hahn
Sean Lafrance

(Continued on Page 12)

Happy Bonspieling!
GOOD LUCK!
Congratulations Elk Point Oilmen on 26 years!
S&T Mobile Wash Ltd.
Cleaning / Steaming Specialists Since 1981
ELK POINT Ph. 780-724-4604
BONNYVILLE Ph. 780-826-3649


Don't leave the other team too much "Leeway" in the house.
Have fun!
LEEWAY HEAVY OIL (1996) LTD.
4609 - 51 Ave., Elk Point, AB
Good Luck!
Ph. 780-724-3026

A Big "welcome" to all the curlers participating in the Elk Point Oilmen's
Best of Luck!
ELK POINT MOTEL & R.V. PARK
(formerly Fort George Motel)
Beside Hwy. 41 in Elk Point (5410 - 48 Street)
Phone: 780-724-3505 • Fax: 780-724-3900
• Toll Free: 1-877-724-3505 •

Keep on the button and line up those rocks for a full house of fun.
BEST OF LUCK TO ALL!

B&R-ECKEL'S TRANSPORT LTD.
Elk Point Office
Phone:
780-724-4067

GOOD LUCK!
Make every rock count at the
26TH ANNUAL OILMEN'S BONSPIEL
Weatherford®
Artificial Lift
BMW Products & Service
5206 - 46 Street
Elk Point, AB
Phone 780-724-4079

The Oilmen's Bonspiel is for fun and a whole lot of relaxation!

Have a Great Time!
PRAIRIE TECH
OILFIELD SERVICES LTD.
ELK POINT • Ph. 780-724-4665
or Dwayne 780-210-1873 Cell

MOBIL Esso Imperial Oil XD-3 EXTRA
Marsollier Petroleum Ltd.
4606 - 54 Avenue, Elk Point
YOUR NEW ESSO AGENT FOR ELK POINT, ST. PAUL & AREA
Henry & Betty
SEE US FOR ALL YOUR LUBE AND FUEL REQUIREMENTS
PH. # 780-724-3975 CELL # 780-614-8226 FAX # 780-724-2634
It's time to get "primed" up for the Big Event, Oilmen.
IT'S BONSPIEL TIME!
Good Luck to all participants!

What a feat,
To sweep, sweep, sweep;
Bump, bang, boom,
You hit the broom.
In order to succeed,
Try to keep the lead.
GOOD LUCK!

TAGS FOOD & GAS
Hwy. 41
Elk Point, AB
780-724-4373
Pizza Hut
K&N LIQUOR STORE
COLD BEER • FINE WINE SPIRITS
Phone: 780-724-4770
Next to Tags
Hwy. 41, Elk Point

Who's who at the 2009 Oilmen's Bonspiel

(Continued from Page 11)

X-treme Oilfield Technology
Darrel Kuzma
George Neuman
Ted Graling
Dan Bojarski

Got To Go Trucking
Dean Payne
George Taylor
Chris M.
JD

Weatherford BMW Elk Point
Joe MacKinnon
Brian Letwin
Kim Hawryluk
Norm Quinney

Weatherford ALS
Doug Littlewood
Angus Ross
Matt Russett
Dean Anderson

Weatherford BMW Bonnyville
Randy Rusnak
Bob Ringuette
Bob Metrunec
Dan Sharun

Weatherford Pump
Bruce Cherniak
Alvin Green
Russel Gillett
Rick Wagner

Noralta Technologies Inc.
Donny Miller
Nathan Bender
Brent Bashukski
Wayne Smith

Sandpiper
Mitch Brekko
Doug Gray
Preston Krankowsky
Floyd Isley

Champion Technologies
Tom Mudryk
Real Fontaine
Ivan Fontaine
Dwayne Yaremkevich

S & T Mobile Wash
Lyle Frisby
Mark Verenka
Willie Pless
Dave Tkachyk

Dudley Consulting
Lorel Lsaovzic
Darwin Botting
Brad Telford
Dale Botting

NOV Tuboscope
Doug MacMillan
Joe Halbach
Jeremy Wetsch
Tom Youngberg

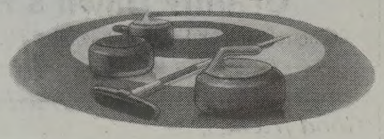
E-Can Oilfield Services
Steve Penz
Scott Penz
Paige White

Gibson Energy
Bob Clarke
John Quinney
Fred Pendleton
Terry Walker

All information regarding teams and sponsors was provided by the Elk Point Oilmen's Association and is subject to additions, deletions and changes.

Have a great bonspiel, Oilmen!

Weld those rocks in place!



Good luck and have an excellent weekend!

HAHN WELDING & OILFIELD SERVICES LTD.
Elk Point, AB / Dispatch: 780-645-0692 Email: hahnweld@telus.net

Best of Luck to all the Oilmen curling in the annual bonspiel in Elk Point.

Try for the button!

Gibsons **GIBSON ENERGY PARTNERSHIP**
"Industry leaders in the movement & marketing of oil and gas"
Phone: 780-808-2400
Fax: 780-808-2420

It's with "pride" that we once again cover the Oilmen's Bonspiel!

Congratulations on 26 years of hosting this event.

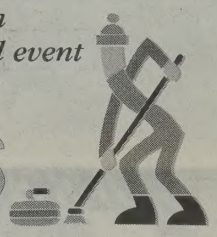
Elk Point **REVIEW** Ph. 780-724-4087

Don't get "bumped" out of the house!

HAVE A GOOD BONSPIEL!

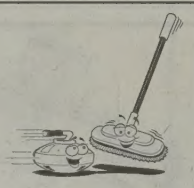
BUMP ENERGY SERVICES LTD. Brent Becker Ph. 780-724-4656

Congratulations Elk Point Oilmen on hosting this annual event for 26 years!



TARSANDS
5109 - 47 Street, Elk Point, AB
Ph. 780-724-3131 Toll Free 1-888-832-3131

Hurry hard, it's time once again for the
ANNUAL ELK POINT OILMEN'S BONSPIEL
Jan. 28 - Feb. 1
Good Luck Oilmen!



ATB Financial
Elk Point
Telephone: 780-724-3883 • Fax: 780-724-4461
Toll Free: 1-800-332-8383

THE ELK POINT OILMEN'S ASSOCIATION
IS HOSTING THEIR ANNUAL BONSPIEL
26 YEARS ~ WAY TO GO!

COUNTY OF ST. PAUL NO. 19
Council & Staff
Ph. (780) 645-3301

Give your rock a hurl and hope it makes the curl.

Good Luck Oilmen!

Rocky Pine
Oilfield Services Ltd.
• Vacuum & Pressure Trucks •
5214 - 46th Street, Elk Point, AB., **Ph. 780-724-2625**
Class 1 & 3 Drivers Required

Hurry! Haarrddd!

Welcome to the annual Oilmen's Bonspiel.

Elk Point Branch 780.724.4099 servuscu.ca

servus credit union

"A" Event

Sponsored by Shamrock Valley Enterprises

Hahn Welding — Thurs. 11 a.m.
E-Can Oilfield Services
B & R Eckels — Thurs. 11 a.m.
BMW #1
BMW #2 — Thurs. 11 a.m.
JPD Enterprises
Nalco Canada — Thurs. 11 a.m.
Midfield Supply
BMW #4 — Thus. 1:30 p.m
X-treme Oilfield
Shamrock Valley Ent. — Thus.1:30 p.m
Pyramid Corporation
Champion Technologies — Thurs.1:30 p.m
Got To Go Trucking
Buffalo Resources Corp. — Thurs. 1:30 p.m
Superior Safety
CCS Landfill — Thurs. 4 p.m.
BMW #3
R & M Energy Systems — Thurs. 4 p.m.
NOV Tuboscope
Gibson Energy — Thurs. 4 p.m.
Dog Inspection Services
Scope — Thurs. 4 p.m.
CCS Midstream
S & T Mobile Wash — Thurs. 6:30 p.m.
BJ Tool Services
Trican — Thurs. 6:30 p.m.
Midfield
Noralta Technologies Inc. — Thurs. 6:30 p.m.
TTL Consulting
Sandpiper — Thurs. 6:30 p.m.
Dudley Consulting

Thurs. 9 p.m. — Fri. 9 p.m. — Sun. 11:15 a.m.
Thurs. 9 p.m. — Fri..9 p.m. — Sun.4 p.m.
Fri..8:30 a.m. — Fri..9 p.m. — Sun. 11:15 a.m.
Fri..8:30 a.m. — Fri. 9 p.m.
Fri..8:30 a.m.

'A' Event winner

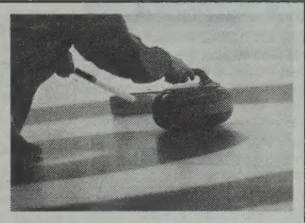
Draw subject to change - see official Draw Sheet at the Elk Point Curling Club

Information provided by the Elk Point Oilmen's Association.

Try to stay on the broom.
HAVE A GREAT TIME CURLING!
JPD ENTERPRISES
4906 - 48 St. Elk Point
• Dispatch: 780-724-4573 •

Dr. Ng and staff wish all the bonspielers the best of luck and have a very relaxing weekend!

ELK POINT DENTAL CENTRE
Phone 780-724-4086

Throw and sweep, but stay on your feet.
Have fun!

Granny Dawn's Attic
Corner of 50th and 50th, Elk Point • Ph. 780-724-4412

Good friends, good sport, good fun all at the Oilmen's!

TOTEM OILFIELD SERVICES LTD.
Elk Point, AB.
Oilfield Maintenance & Construction
Don Woytkiw Cell: 780-614-0380 Res: 780-724-4028

Welcome all participants to the 26th year of the bonspiel.
Put your best rock forward at the
OILMEN'S BONSPIEL

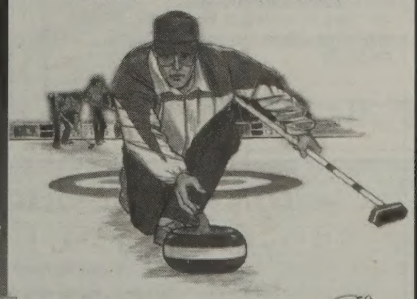
May the games begin!
Have Fun, Fun, Fun!
TD Canada Trust
TD Canada Trust
4830-50 Street, Elk Point, AB • Ph. 780-724-8085

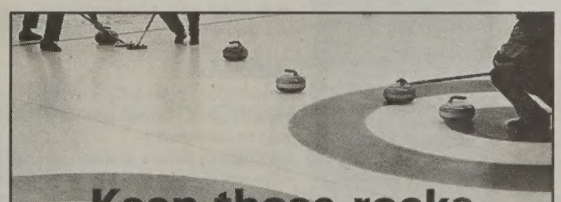
Don't be "buffaloed" curling in the Oilmen's is great, great, great!
Best of Luck to everyone curling!

Buffalo Resources Corp.
4807 - 50th Ave., Elk Point
Ph. 780-724-4855
www.buffaloresources.com

Have fun, but please use the courtesy vehicle provided if necessary!

ELK POINT EMS
P.O. BOX 533, ELK POINT, ALTA T0A 1A0
EMERGENCY PHONE 911 or 780-724-4040

IT'S CURLING TIME
Congratulations on the
26TH ANNUAL OILMEN'S BONSPIEL
HAVE A GREAT WEEKEND!

MIDFIELD
4601 - 50 Avenue
Elk Point, AB
Bus. 780-724-4876
Fax 780-724-3965


Keep those rocks heavy in the house.
Enjoy the bonspiel!
The Mayor, Council and Staff
TOWN OF ELK POINT
780-724-3810

CLASSIFIED INDEX

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4000 ..... Agriculture Directory
5000 ..... Real Estate Directory
6000 ..... Automotive Directory
7000 ..... Services Directory
8000 ..... Home Improvement Directory
9000 ..... Personals Directory

190. Announcements

PROVINCE-WIDE Classifieds. Reach over 1 million readers weekly. Only $259. + GST (based on 25 words or less). Call this newspaper NOW for details.

Elaine's
Family Hair Styling & Barbering
Ph. 780-943-2520
Heinsburg
Reasonable Rates Flexible Hours

200. Business/Invest. Oppor.

2X2 EXPLOSION. Finally, a simple income plan that really works. Perfect cost $ Perfect plan $ Perfect timing! By the time you've read this ad - we will have earned, at least another $540.! Just launched - Don't miss out! www.NextGenerationRiches.com.

FARMERS AND ACREAGE owners opportunity knocks. Grow Rhodiolia Rosea (herb) for ARRGO to help fill contracts to supply world demand. Monica 780-983-0199; www.arrgo.ca. monica@arrgo.ca.

MONEY MAKER. Local route. No selling on your part. For more info call 1-866-821-2569.

OWN YOUR OWN retail store - True Value Hardware Stores. Profitable well established retail businesses for sale in Alberta. Oyen, Three Hills, Evansburg, plus more Alberta locations. Call for details 1-800-665-5085, Cindy Kok. TruServ Canada; www.truserv.ca.

410. Education/Training

HEAVY EQUIPMENT Operator Training. Monthly courses begin March 9. Dozer, grader, excavator, loader, scraper, rock truck. Tuition is $9700. Practicum Training Institute 306-955-0079; www.practicumtraininginstitute.ca. Email: pti@sasktel.net.

TRAIN FOR a new career in medical transcription. Learn from home! Earn from home! Contact CanScribe today for a free information package. 1-800-466-1535; www.canscribe.com; info@canscribe.com.

1005. Help Wanted

1500. Help Wanted - Prov.

30 PEOPLE WANTED to lose weight. Up to 30 lbs./30 days. Cash back rewards. 1 on 1 private coaching. Call 403-675-4444.

ATTENTION: Agricultural Journeyman Parts and Service Technicians. Did you know the John Deere Industrial Equipment dealers pay up to 30% more in hourly wages? Why not join the Brandt Tractor team at one of our 5 locations in Alberta or 21 locations across Western Canada. We are seeking resident technicians in Lac La Biche, Camrose, Edson, Drayton Valley, Wetaskiwin and Vegreville. If you are interested in a high paying camp position in Fort McMurray - we offer a 3 week on, 3 week off shift for commuters. Brandt has been recognized as one of Canada's top 50 Managed Companies for the past 3 years. If you want a great career with a rapidly growing and dynamic company, send your resume to: Brandt Tractor Ltd. Attention: Greg Davidson, 10630 - 176 St., Edmonton, AB, T5S 1M2. Fax 780-489-6891; sgoldfeder@brandttractor.com.

BAKER. Retail Food Store, Vermilion; new store in Wainwright, Alberta. Good benefits, bonus plan. Eastalta Co-op Ltd., 5013 - 51 Ave., Vermilion, AB, T9X 1B2. Opportunity for management training.

CO-MANAGING COUPLE in south central Alberta. Operate and reside at gracious retirement residence. Salary 40K, bonuses and benefits. Email: c3h@persona.ca. Phone 403-598-4435.

HAVE FUN making money as an actor or film extra on Calgary movie sets. All ages required. 403-521-0077.

1005. Help Wanted

ELK POINT MOTEL & R.V. PARK
(Fort George Motel)
HIRING:
HOUSEKEEPING STAFF
Full & Part Time
Excellent wages.
Apply in person or phone 780-724-3505.

1500. Help Wanted - Prov.

CRUISE SHIP JOBS. Earn $500. - $3000./week. Free room/board, all expenses paid lifestyle, visiting Caribbean Ports of Call. Apply today; cooljobs@rogers.com.

DAVID PRIMEAU Trucking Ltd. requires bed truck and picker operator. Must have picker lift ticket to apply. Fax resume to 780-778-2918.

EDGERTON GOLF CLUB, 20 minutes southeast of Wainwright is currently seeking a greenskeeper for the 2009 season. Call Trevor 780-704-0444 or fax resume to 780-755-3839.

EMERALD TRUCKING (High Prairie), Trottier Trucking (Fox Creek), TJM Oilfield (Swan Hills) and Trail-Braker (Rocky Mountain House), four EnerMax companies, are currently seeking Class 1 & 3 drivers and vacuum drivers. Fax resume to 780-523-5833.

HEAVY DUTY MECHANIC required in Edmonton - Hydraulic, welding, electrical experience an asset. Need Class 1 or qualifications to obtain. Email resume to: norma@groundw.com.

INDEPENDENT ELECTRIC & Controls Ltd. is currently hiring an Instrumentation Manager and journeyman instrumentation mechanic for our oilfield operations at Fort Nelson, British Columbia. For more information, send inquiries or resume to: careers@iecgroup.ca.

1005. Help Wanted

1500. Help Wanted - Prov.

INDEPENDENT ELECTRIC & Controls Ltd. We are currently hiring the following positions: Journeyman lineman, and apprentice lineman. For more information, send inquiries or resume to: careers@iecgroup.ca.

J&B EQUIPMENT, Kindersley, Saskatchewan. Wanted parts people for our Case IH/NH dealership. Top wages, excellent benefits. Apply to Doug. Phone 306-463-4651. Fax 306-463-4607. Email: parts@jbequipmentltd.com.

CLASSIFIED
A-D-V-E-R-T-I-S-I-N-G
an idea that SELLS.

JOURNALISTS, Graphic Artists, Marketing and more. Alberta's weekly newspapers are looking for people like you. Post your resume online. Free. Visit: www.awna.com/resumes_add.php.

MEAT CUTTER WANTED, Cochrane IGA. Competitive wages and benefits. Send resume to: Box 1000, Cochrane, AB, T4C 1B1.

OUR LARGE farm team needs a mechanic/operator to help repair, maintain, and operate large farm equipment. Formal training not required. Contact Brett at 306-741-7737 or send resume to fax 306-778-3938 or email: amberfield@sasktel.net.

1005. Help Wanted

1500. Help Wanted - Prov.

SOUTH ROCK LTD. is seeking Asphalt Paving Foremen, Superintendents, and skilled workers for the 2009 season in Alberta. Accommodations supplied, competitive pay, benefits packages, and a respectful work environment! Visit www.southrock.ca for information. Fax 403-568-1327. Email: edbom@southrock.ca.

Be Wise **...ADVERTISE**

REMOVE YOUR RECORD: A criminal record can follow you for life. Only Pardon Services Canada has 20 years experience. Guaranteeing record removal. Call 1-8-NOW-PARDON (1-866-972-7366); www.RemoveYourRecord.com.

YOUR CRIMINAL RECORD: Professionally removed. Only Pardon Services Canada has been helping Canadians with discrete, efficient service for 20 years. Call 1-8-NOW PARDON 1-866-972-7366; www.RemoveYourRecord.com.

CLASSIFIED
A-D-V-E-R-T-I-S-I-N-G
an idea that SELLS.

1005. Help Wanted

1005. Help Wanted

TEE-JAY WATER HAULING requires:
CLASS 1 DRIVER
w/Air Brakes.
CLASS 3 DRIVER
Applicants should have H2S, First Aid, and clean Driver's Abstract. FULL BENEFITS.
Location: Bonnyville
Experience preferred.
Please fax resume w/Driver's Abstract to **780-573-7673**
Only those selected for an interview will be contacted.

MANATOKAN OILFIELD SERVICES
requires Class 1 or Class 3
Semi Vac Truck Drivers
Pressure Truck Drivers
Flushby Operators
operators & swampers
Safety tickets and vac experience an asset, but will train suitable candidate. We offer competitive wages and an excellent benefits package
Please fax resume to: 780-826-5861
Attn. Roger 780(645-0728) or Allen 780(826-8955) or call 780-826-8955 for more information

1005. Help Wanted

CLASS 1 DRIVER
TO HAUL OIL OUT OF ELK POINT AREA
Must have at least 3 years driving experience and fluid hauling experience, also clean abstract.
Must have all safety tickets.
Super B experience an asset.
Flexible schedule.
REQUIRED IMMEDIATELY
Phone Greg 780-645-0219

FLASHPOINT ELECTRIC INC.
Flashpoint Electric Inc.
is currently accepting resumes for
Instrucment Technicians. for the Bonnyville, AB area
The successful candidate will possess Gas Field and Compression experience, knowledge of Signet, Valid Driver's License, and a clean Safety Record.
Interested applicants should email resume in confidence to: bradmontgomery@flashpointelectric.com

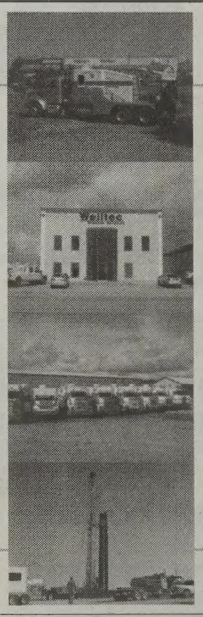
Employment Opportunity
IN CHILD CARE
Work In Your Own Home
Elk Point Child Care Services Program needs mature, dependable adults to provide child care services in their homes for children under 6 years of age.
QUALIFICATIONS:
1) Willingness to be an important part of a child's life.
2) Must meet requirements of Elk Point Child Care Services Program prior to commencement
3) Willingness to accept monitoring and training.
IF INTERESTED, CALL DEANNA AT THE F.C.S.S. OFFICE AT 780-724-3800

PARTSPERSON
Counterperson required for an auto and industrial parts store.
Apprenticeship available. Experience an asset. Require strong customer relations. Salary based on qualifications. Health plan. Only successful applicants contacted.
BUMPER TO BUMPER
Auto Parts Professionals
Wilter Auto & Industrial Supply
Box 809, 5405 - 48 Street, Elk Point, AB T0A 1A0
Phone: 780-724-4090 Fax: 780-724-2991
Email: wiltersc@telus.net

Be Wise **...ADVERTISE**

E-CAN
OILFIELD SERVICES LP
Drivers and Labourers Needed
Regular Schedule, Full Benefit Package and Profit Share Working for a Reputable Company in the Oilfield Service Industry
VALID LICENSE A PREREQUISITE FOR ALL POSITIONS
Positions Available:
Elk Point, Fort Kent, Wabasca Camp, Peace River Camp
- **PRESSURE UNIT OPERATORS**
- **FLUSH BY UNIT OPERATORS**
- **CTU UNIT OPERATORS**
- **VACUUM UNIT OPERATORS**
- **LABOURERS**

Fax Resumes 780-724-2166
Check out our website: www.e-can-oilfield.com
Call Steve S.: 780-724-6307



Welltec®
Wireline Services
Wireline Operators (Bonnyville, AB)

In our Bonnyville location we are seeking to train several motivated employees and add to our already established team. In return for working hard to get the job done right and helping your co-workers we will help you develop your career.
Most of our work is 'close to home' - so you will be home most evenings too!

Qualifications
- Valid H2S, 1st Aid & CPR, WHMIS
- Class 1 or 3Q Drivers License (Class 5Q may be considered)
- Acceptable driver's abstract
- Pre-employment drug screen, physical assessment, and security clearance will be conducted

Duties
Driving wireline unit to/back from site, handling explosives, conducting equipment checks, servicing of down-hole tools and equipment, job load out, rig up/down at site and customer service.
Compensation
A great team of co-workers and the opportunity to make a career. Base salary, job bonus, health benefits, matching RRSP, cell, boot & food allowance.
Application
Please submit your application by fax **403 263 2258 or**
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3010. Auctions

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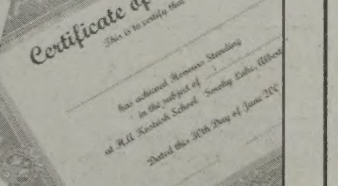

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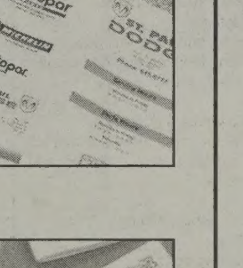

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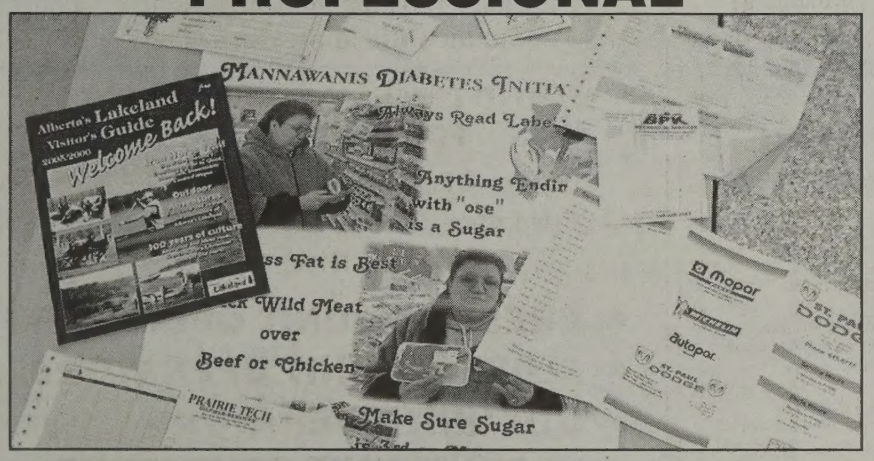

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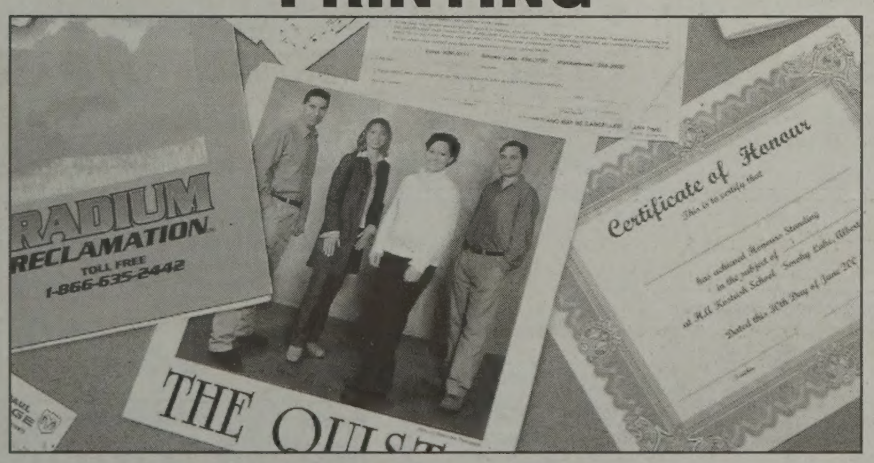

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Proud to be in Avalanche country

Elk Point Bantam Avalanche, shown with coach Aaron Knopp and manager Janina McFarlane, proudly brought home the gold after their "A" side win at a tournament in Tofield, defeating the previously undefeated host team 8 to 4. The Bantams start theirr first round of Provincial playoffs this Saturday evening at the A. G. Ross Arena.

Toni May photo

(Continued from Page 8)

Atoms win first Provincial game

Meanwhile, over in Bonnyville on Saturday, the Atom Avalanche lost a close one 10 to 6. Brodin Ference with 4 goals, defense woman Chansie Botting and partner Jewel Poitras also scoring. Tough loss, but when it really counted on Sunday in Mallaig, it was full speed ahead for the Atoms in their first provincial game, coming out on top 8 to 6. Scoring ace Brodin " the Flying Ference" was having another strong game, scoring six goals, Brodie Odgaard and his big brother Dylan the " Big O" with one each. The forwards played a strong game, but the defense that never sees any glory, well, that was another story; the D was outstanding in this game. This coming Friday, the second game of the two-game, total-point provincial series against Mallaig will be right here at 6 p.m. Come on out and give our guys some support.

Bantams bring home gold

And here's another great hockey story to tell you about, this one coming out of Tofield where our Bantam Avalanche played in a tournament and came home with the gold, winning the A final.

Saturday morning the boys played against Camrose, coming up a little short and losing 4 to 3, Wyatt" Mad dog" Dewan, Jamison "Fuzzy" Wozniak and "Dan the Man" Garrett scoring, Brad McFarlane, Andrew "Bruise Brother" Jenner and Mike "Bulldozer" Abraham with the assists.

In their second match of the day, another close one but this time the boys came out on top 3 to 1. Decoda Maddex, Trever "the Kid" Ballas and "Dan the Man" scoring, the " Bruise Brothers" Andrew and Matthew each picking up assists.

On to the main event on Sunday against the host Tofield, who were undefeated up to this point, the Avs winning 8 to 4, the boys putting together a real team effort in this one and you can easily tell by the number of different players on the score sheet. "Dan the Man with a hat trick and an assist, Jared Vallee, Dakota "Doc" Amyotte, Mike "Bulldozer" Abraham, Jordan "Bubbles" Atkinson and Trever "the Kid" Ballas all finding the back of the net, and contributing with assists, Trever "the Kid" Ballas, Decoda Maddex, Brad McFarlane, Brett "the Moose" Ockerman and Andrew "Bruise Brother" Jenner.

This coming weekend the Bantams play Friday night at 8 p.m. against Cold Lake, then host Lac La Biche on Saturday night at 7:30 p.m. in their first provincial game. Come out and make some noise.

Peewees give 100 per cent

Although they didn't win in Mallaig on Saturday, the Peewee Avalanche had 100 per cent effort from everyone, Colin "Naz Jr." Nazarchuk with 2 goals, Jaredd "Snipes" McGilvery, Brandon "Snake" Garrett and Davis "Hippie" Desjarlais scoring, goalie Brandon Bourne coming up with some big saves in net.

On Sunday the boys traveled to Kikino with another real good effort, in fact, this game was very close, a one goal spread until the boys finally powered out in the last five minutes. Jaredd McGilvery with 2 goals, Colin "Naz Jr." Nazarchuk sinking one, Tell "Too Tall" May and Rylan "Brutus" Buffalo adding assists, MacKenzie "King" Roberts with some big punishing body checks.

Tough break for Storm

Up to now it been all good news, now for the bad news. The Midget Girls Storm hosted Viking on Sunday after the novice tournament and not only did they lose the game, which wasn't that bad since they played quite well in this one, but lost another big part of their team, Kelsey "the Champ" Vinge went down with a broken collar bone in the game. This is the second girl on the team to break a collarbone, Lindsey "Goldilocks" MacDonald breaking hers on Christmas day sledding has yet to return, and the Storm had a very short bench to begin with. Anyone need a little extra ice time?

Micro Novice tourney Saturday

The Micro Novice Tornadoes took this weekend off to rest up for their big one-day tournament this coming Saturday. Come on down and see the hockey stars of the future in action.

And now for the K.A. Campbell quote of the week: "I don't think he knew squat about hockey." Last week's answer to: "The goalie is like the guy on the minefield. He discovers the mines and destroys them. If you make a mistake, somebody gets blown up." – Arturs Irbe.

Do you have any scoops? Now you can email them to sportshound007@hotmail.com

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